

**LIST OF CLAIMS, SHOWING THE STATUS OF EACH CLAIM**

Underlining denotes added text while strikethrough denotes deleted text.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) A protease variant comprising an amino acid sequence having a substitution at the residue position equivalent to residue positions 26 and 218 of *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens* subtilisin as set forth in SEQ ID NO:32, wherein said substitutions comprises V26T or V26S, and N218S.

2. (Currently Amended) The protease variant of claim 1, wherein said variant includes at least one improved property selected from a) wash performance and b) stability as compared to SEQ ID NO:62.

3. (Currently Amended) The protease variant of claim1, ~~wherein said~~, wherein said protease variant exhibits improved thermostability as compared to the subtilisin set forth in SEQ ID NO:62.

Claims 4-14. (Cancelled)

15. (Original) A DNA encoding a protease variant of claim 1.

16. (Original) An expression vector encoding the DNA of claim 15.

17. (Original) A host cell transformed with the expression vector of claim 16.

18. (Original) A cleaning composition comprising the protease variant of claim 1.